

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
REQUEST FOR FILING APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)
WITHOUT FILING FEE AND/OR WITHOUT EXECUTED INVENTOR'S DECLARATION

11/30/01

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Atty. Dkt. 900-409

Date: November 30, 2001

Sir:

This is a request for filing a new PATENT APPLICATION under Rule 53(b) entitled:
APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PRODUCTION OF SOLAR CELLS

without a filing fee and/or without an executed inventor's oath/declaration.

This application is made by the below identified inventor(s). Attached hereto are the following papers:

- Newly executed Declaration, Copy of Declaration from prior application, Abstract
16 pages of specification and claims (including 5 numbered claims), and
4 sheets of accompanying drawing/s.

- Record the attached assignment and return to the undersigned.

Attached is a Power of Attorney.

Priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119/120/121 based on the following foreign/US applications:

| Application Number | Country | Day/Month/Year Filed |
|---------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Hei 11 (1999)-022274 | Japan | 29/01/1999 |
| 09/492,109 | U.S. | 27/01/2000 |

, respectively, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference in this application..

Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached.

Certified copy of JA filed January 27, 2000 in prior application no. 09/492,109 filed January 27, 2000

Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph before the first line: --This application claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. , filed , the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

This application is a continuation/ division/ continuation-in-part of Application No. 09/492,109, filed January 27, 2000, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

Petition filed in prior application to extend its life to insure co-pendency (3 mo. extension).

The prior application is assigned to Sharp Kabushiki Kaisha.

It is hereby requested that the Examiner consider the art cited in the above parent application(s) by applicant and/or the Examiner for the reasons stated therein. A listing of that art is attached, but pursuant to Rule 98(d) copies are not required.

Applicant claims "small entity" status. "Small entity" statement attached.

Please enter the attached and/or below preliminary amendment prior to calculation of filing fee:

Also attached: Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449; Non-Publication Request; Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission; Statement deleting Inventor(s) named in prior application;

Other:

| | | | | |
|----|--|----|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | Inventor: Satoshi (first) | MI | MASHIMA (last) | Japanese (citizenship) |
| | Residence: (city) Kitakatsuragi-gun, | | (state/country) Nara, Japan | |
| | Mailing Address: 85-1, Hachikawa, Taima-cho, Kitakatsuragi-gun., Nara, Japan | | | |
| | (Zip Code) 639-2163 | | | |
| 2. | Inventor: Katsuhiko (first) | MI | NOMOTO (last) | Japanese (citizenship) |
| | Residence: (city) Kashiwara-shi | | (state/country) Osaka, Japan | |
| | Mailing Address: 1-12-41, Hirano, Kashiwara-shi, Osaka, Japan | | | |
| | (Zip Code) 582-0019 | | | |

See attached sheet(s) for additional inventor(s) information!!

Address all future communications to NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C., 1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor, Arlington, VA 22201.

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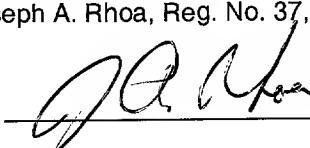
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NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By Atty: Joseph A. Rhoa, Reg. No. 37,515

Signature: 

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